

held the position only a year, when Dr. Joseph Caldwell, another Presbyterian clergyman, took charge in 1796. He was its real founder, and is often termed the father of the University. For nearly forty years he labored faithfully to build it up. He canvassed the State, urging the people to its support; visited Europe to prepare its apparatus and collect its cabinet, formed its curriculum, fought Voltairism—which had then a strong hold in North Carolina—and taught and preached and prayed as scarcely ever man did before to bring his charge into favor and usefulness. His efforts were crowned with complete success. When death closed his arduous work, the University was beyond the reach of anything to destroy except an absolute lapse into barbarism or *reconstruction*. He, too, was of that Scotch-Irish, *Ulster* breed, of which John C. Calhoun, the greatest South Carolinian, and Andrew Jackson, the greatest North Carolinian, were descended. A handsome monument erected above his grave in the campus grove fitly commemorate his virtues and his labors; and on every commencement day for many years thereafter, his successor in solemn procession, with bared head, led the graduates, pupils and faculty around this shaft, beneath which lies the dust of this faithful and unselfish servant of his people and his God. Considering the period and the character of his labors, the assertion often made is probably true, that he did more for education in North Carolina than any man who ever lived in her borders. For in addition to his services in behalf of the University, he aroused the public mind to the subject of free schools, and prepared the way for the system which was adopted soon after his death. He also, far in advance of his age, and with a prevision equal to that of Dewitt Clinton, conceived and advocated the great trunk line of road from Beaufort harbor to the Tennessee line.

Caldwell was succeeded by Governor Swain, to whose memory I shall devote one paper of these sketches. Under his